

# MELLS PARISH COUNCIL

(mellsparishcouncil.org.uk)

## Minutes of the meeting of Mells Parish Council on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2018 at Mells Barn

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1. **PRESENT:** Cllr John Earl – Chair, Cllr S. West, Cllr A Brady, The Countess of Oxford & Asquith, Cllr H Leakey, Cllr V Turner, Cllr L Turner, Cllr E Costelloe  
**In Attendance:** Minutes were taken by Clare Asquith in Clerks absence due to operation  
**Members of the public:** None
2. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Cllr J Seewoorutten, Cllr D Seviour
3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** None
4. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** Email from E Drewe, District Councillor, confirming that a planning enforcement notice would be shortly be imposed on the Old Telephone Exchange.
5. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES DATED 14 AUGUST 2018.** Minutes had previously been circulated and it was resolved that the minutes be adopted. The minutes were then signed by the Chair.
6. **ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING.**
  - a) **Broadband – Truespeed.** There has been a low take-up in Mells. 40% to 50% have reasonable broadband speeds for the present from BT, but greater speeds will be needed in the near future. Large banners in the village, and door-to-door visits by councilors were proposed in order to raise awareness.
  - b) **Barn Lease:** Still no response from the solicitors, Harris and Harris. John Earl is exploring alternative plans.
  - c) **Old Telephone Exchange:** Enforcement notice imminent.
  - d) **Data Protection:** Awaiting return of Parish Clerk.
  - e) **Dumped Car – Fairview.** Mendip is aware, and processing removal.
  - f) **Fire Hydrants:** Fire service has contacted Clerk and informed her that the two hydrants will be inspected mid September. The rest would be inspected during the annual inspection later this year.
7. **WAR MEMORIAL UPKEEP:** Monica Jennings and June Costelloe have been tending the memorial for many years. New volunteers needed. Clare Asquith to research.
8. **HIGHWAY ISSUES:**
  - a) **Lime Kiln Hill – obscured repeater signs.** John Earl to check if signs still not visible.
9. **PLANNING:**
  - a) No new applications or Mendip decisions
  - b) **Lime Kiln Quarry:** Possible housing development being explored by owner in conjunction with the Mells Matters Group. The possibility of easing the planning process by working on a local plan initiative was proposed and discussed. It was decided to await developments.
10. **CORRESPONDENCE FROM SOMERSET COUNTY COUNCIL – none**

**11. CORRESPONDENCE FROM MENDIP DISTRICT COUNCIL – none**

**12. OTHER CORRESPONDENCE – none**

**13. PAYMENTS, RECEIPTS AND OTHER FINANCIAL MATTERS**

Balances as at 28 August 2018 – £12,341.57. Barclays £5,197.72

a) J Book	Clerk's Salary & expenses (August)		£264.31
	Trip to Mells (@ 45p/mile)	0.00	
	Phone line rental	5.50	
	Utilities	<u>4.00</u>	
		£9.50	
	HMRC PAYE (Period 6)		£33.20
	Mells with Vobster PCC – donation towards bench		£50.00

Approved - all in favour

**14. ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA/ITEMS TO REPORT**

- a) **Buckand Dinham fingerpost:** The sign by war memorial still needs to be repaired.
- b) **Parish noticeboards:** Information on the boards needs to be kept updated.

**15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: 9<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2018 at 7.15pm**

Meeting closed at 8.30 pm

Signed.....

Date.....

Print Name.....